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# A Directory of **ILLINOIS NATURE PRESERVES**

NATURAL HISTORY SURVEY

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Illinois  
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# A Directory of **ILLINOIS NATURE PRESERVES**



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## **INTRODUCTION**

A nature preserve is an area of land or water in public or private ownership that is formally dedicated, pursuant to the terms of the law, to being maintained in its natural condition. It must either retain to some degree its primeval character (though it need not be completely natural and undisturbed at the time of dedication) or have floral, faunal, geological or archaeological features of scientific or educational value.

Perhaps it is best to think of nature preserves as living museums to be used in a manner and under limitations consistent with their continued preservation, without unreasonable impairment, disturbance, or development, for the public purposes of scientific research, education and esthetic enjoyment.

The Illinois Nature Preserves System was established by law in 1963 to secure the benefits of an enduring resource of natural land. A nine-member Illinois Nature Preserves Commission was also established at that time.

Responsibility for the system is shared by the Illinois Department of Conservation, the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission and the various landowners who have dedicated their lands as preserves.

## **USE OF PRESERVES**

Public use of nature preserves is generally limited to walking and observing nature. Such pursuits as bird watching and nature photography are high on the list of visitor activities. Interpretive programs are provided at some preserves. When public use is relatively heavy, visitors are required to stay on designated trails. The preservation of natural conditions must always be the primary consideration in determining use of nature preserves.

Scientific and educational use is allowed only to the extent that they do not alter natural conditions. Nature preserves are well suited to the study of natural ecosystems, taxonomy, animal behavior, soil science and many other subjects. Research projects are carefully coordinated and are conducted only by written permit. Only those preserves with interpretive staff are well suited to use by primary and secondary school groups or classes.

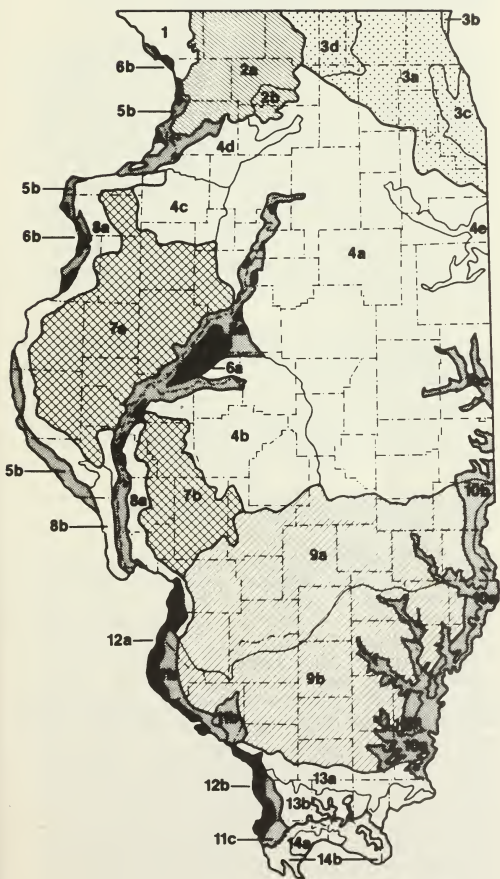
Not all preserves are developed for public access. It is best to consult the nature preserve map and comments on each preserve in the concluding part of this booklet prior to making plans to visit an area. Advance permission is required to visit some areas.

## **DEDICATION OF PRESERVES**

An area becomes a nature preserve upon its formal dedication by the administering agency or owner with the approval of the governor, the Department of Conservation and the Nature Preserves Commission.

- 1 Wisconsin Driftless Division
- 2 Rock River Hill Country Division
  - a Freeport Section
  - b Oregon Section
- 3 Northeastern Morainal Division
  - a Morainal Section
  - b Lake Michigan Dunes Section
  - c Chicago Lake Plain Section
  - d Winnebago Drift Section
- 4 Grand Prairie Division
  - a Grand Prairie Section
  - b Springfield Section
  - c Western Section
  - d Green River Lowland Section
  - e Kankakee Sand Area Section
- 5 Upper Mississippi River and Illinois River Bottomlands Division
  - a Illinois River Section
  - b Mississippi River Section
- 6 Illinois River and Mississippi River Sand Areas Division
  - a Illinois River Section
  - b Mississippi River Section
- 7 Western Forest-Prairie Division
  - a Galesburg Section
  - b Carlinville Section
- 8 Middle Mississippi Border Division
  - a Glaciated Section
  - b Driftless Section
- 9 Southern Till Plain Division
  - a Effingham Plain Section
  - b Mt Vernon Hill Country Section
- 10 Wabash Border Division
  - a Bottomlands Section
  - b Southern Uplands Section
  - c Vermillion River Section
- 11 Ozark Division
  - a Northern Section
  - b Central Section
  - c Southern Section
- 12 Lower Mississippi River Bottomlands Division
  - a Northern Section
  - b Southern Section
- 13 Shawnee Hills Division
  - a Greater Shawnee Hills Section
  - b Lesser Shawnee Hills Section
- 14 Coastal Plain Division
  - a Cretaceous Hills Section
  - b Bottomlands Section

FIGURE 1. THE NATURAL DIVISIONS OF ILLINOIS



Dedication of an area as a nature preserve gives it maximum protection against future changes in land use. The law declares an area dedicated as a nature preserve to be put to its highest, best and most important use for public benefit.

Departments and agencies of state and local government as well as private organizations and individuals are empowered to dedicate suitable areas within their jurisdictions as nature preserves.

## **OBJECTIVES OF THE SYSTEM**

A major objective of the nature preserves system is the preservation of adequate samples of all the significant natural features of the state. Natural features include geological and physiographic formations, soils, streams, and lakes and aquatic and terrestrial communities of plants and animals. A classification of natural geographic divisions of Illinois has been devised (Figure 1) to provide the primary basis for establishment of the nature preserves system. This approach offers the advantage of integrating the soils, topography, geology and biotic communities in one classification. The natural divisions and sections are distinguished according to differences in topography, glacial history, bedrock, soils and the distribution of native flora and fauna.

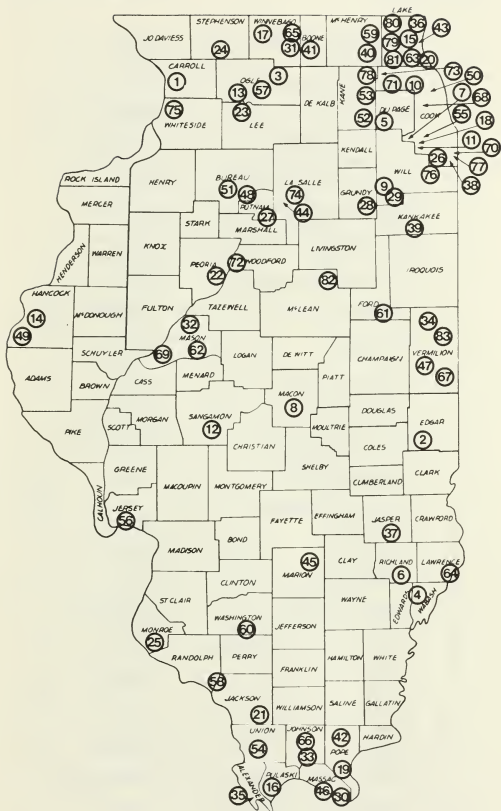
Another objective of the system is the preservation of habitats of species of native Illinois plants and animals that are vanishing or rare.

The Illinois system of preserves complements a national effort by federal and other state agencies to preserve representative examples of natural ecosystems.

## **THE EXISTING SYSTEM OF NATURE PRESERVES**

The Illinois Nature Preserves System as of May 30, 1982 consists of 89 preserves containing 19,361 acres. The preserves range in size from 1.3 acres to 1,861 acres and are distributed among 44 of the state's 102 counties. Forty-three of the preserves containing 12,681.3 acres are held by the Illinois Department of Conservation. Of the remainder, eleven areas are held by the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, four by the Nature Conservancy, three by the Lake County Forest Preserve District, and one each by the Natural Land Institute, Downer's Grove Park District, Macon County Conservation District, Will County Forest Preserve District, Springfield Park District, Winnebago County Forest Preserve District, Forest Park Foundation, Jane Addamsland Park Foundation, Northeastern Illinois University, Boone County Conservation District, Morton Grove Park District, Princeton Park District, Kane County Forest Preserve District, St. Charles Park District, Northern Illinois University, Patton Township Cemetery Trustees, Long Grove Park District, Vincennes University, Vermilion County Conservation District, the City of Elgin





The Illinois Nature Preserves System  
Figure 2

<b>Map #</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>County</b>
1	Ayers Sand Prairie	Carroll
2	Baber Woods	Edgar
3	Beach Cemetery Prairie	Ogle
4	Beall Woods + **	Wabash
5	Belmont Prairie +	DuPage
6	Big Creek Woods +	Richland
7	Black Partridge Woods +	Cook
8	Bois du Sangamon	Macon
9	Braidwood Dunes and Savanna	Will
10	Busse Forest +	Cook
11	Cap Sauers Holdings +	Cook
12	Carpenter Park +	Sangamon
13	Castle Rock	Ogle
14	Cedar Glen +	Hancock
15	Cedar Lake Bog	Lake
16	Chestnut Hills*	Pulaski
17	Colored Sand Bluff	Winnebago
18	Cranberry Slough +	Cook
19	Cretaceous Hills	Pope
20	Edward L. Ryerson + **	Lake
21	Fern Rocks +	Jackson
22	Forest Park	Peoria
23	Franklin Creek*	Lee
24	Freeport Prairie	Stephenson
25	Fults Hill Prairie	Monroe
26	Gensburg-Markham Prairie +	Cook
27	George S. Park	Putnam
28	Goose Lake Prairie + **	Grundy
29	Grant Creek Prairie	Will
30	Halesia	Massac
31	Harlem Hills Prairie +	Winnebago
32	Henry Allan Gleason	Mason
33	Heron Pond-Little Black Slough + **	Johnson
34	Horseshoe Bottom	Vermilion
35	Horseshoe Lake	Alexander
36	Illinois Beach + **	Lake
37	Jasper Co. Prairie Chicken Sanctuary	Jasper
38	Jurgenson Woods North +	Cook
39	Kankakee River	Kankakee & Will
40	Kettle Moraine +	McHenry
41	Kinnikinnick Creek	Boone
42	Lusk Creek Canyon + *	Pope
43	MacArthur Woods	Lake
44	Margery C. Carlson +	LaSalle

## Acreage Owner

109	Il. Dept. of Conservation
59	The Nature Conservancy
225	Natural Land Institute
329	Il. Dept. of Conservation
10.4	Downer's Grove Park District
40	The Nature Conservancy
80	Cook Co. Forest Preserve Dist.
30	Macon Co. Conservation Dist.
145	Will Co. Forest Preserve Dist.
440	Cook Co. Forest Preserve Dist.
1,520	Cook Co. Forest Preserve Dist.
322	Springfield Park District
589	Il. Dept. of Conservation
142	The Nature Conservancy
27.5	Il. Dept. of Conservation
212	Il. Dept. of Conservation
44	Winnebago Co. Forest Pres. Dist.
400	Cook Co. Forest Preserve Dist.
240	Il. Dept. of Conservation
278.88	Lake Co. Forest Preserve Dist.
170	Il. Dept. of Conservation
90	Forest Park Foundation
96	Il. Dept. of Conservation
6	Jane Addamsland Park Found.
532	Il. Dept. of Conservation
95	Northeastern Il. University
80	Il. Dept. of Conservation
1537.3	Il. Dept. of Conservation
78	Il. Dept. of Conservation
14.7	American Electric Power Co.
53	Il. Dept. of Conservation
110	Il. Dept. of Conservation
1,861	Il. Dept. of Conservation
518	Il. Dept. of Conservation
492	Il. Dept. of Conservation
829	Il. Dept. of Conservation
407	Il. Dept. of Conservation
120	Cook Co. Forest Pres. Dist.
139	Il. Dept. of Conservation
242	Il. Dept. of Conservation
57	Boone Co. Conservation Dist.
125	Il. Dept. of Conservation
446	Lake Co. Forest Pres. Dist.
178	The Nature Conservancy

Map #	Name	County
45	Marion Co. Prairie Chicken Sanctuary	Marion
46	Mermet Swamp	Massac
47	Middlefork Woods	Vermilion
48	Miller-Anderson Woods +	Bureau & Putnam
49	Mississippi River Sand Hills	Hancock
50	Morton Grove Prairie	Cook
51	Myer Woods	Bureau
52	Nelson Lake Marsh	Kane
53	Norris Woods	Kane
54	Ozark Hills +	Union
55	Paw Paw Woods	Cook
56	Pere Marquette	Jersey
57	Pine Rock	Ogle
58	Piney Creek +	Randolph
59	Pistakee Bog*	McHenry
60	Posen Woods	Washington
61	Prospect Cemetery	Ford
62	Reavis* +	Mason
63	Reed-Turner Woodland**	Lake
64	Robeson Hills	Lawrence
65	Rockton	Winnebago
66	Round Bluff +	Johnson
67	Russell M. Duffin + **	Vermilion
68	Salt Creek Woods +	Cook
69	Sand Prairie-Scrub Oak +	Mason
70	Sand Ridge	Cook
71	Shoe Factory Road	Cook
72	Spring Bay Fen	Woodford
73	Spring Lake	Cook
74	Starved Rock	LaSalle
75	Thomson-Fulton Sand Prairie	Whiteside
76	Thorn Creek Woods + **	Will
77	Thornton-Lansing Road Zanders Woods +	Cook
78	Trout Park +	Kane
79	Volo Bog* + **	Lake
80	Wadsworth Prairie	Lake
81	Wauconda Bog	Lake
82	Weston Cemetery Prairie	McLean
83	Windfall Prairie	Vermilion

\* Acquisition incomplete

+ Nature trails developed

\*\* Interpretive program

**Acreage    Owner**

160	Il. Dept. of Conservation
43	Il. Dept. of Conservation
69.2	Il. Dept. of Conservation
258	Il. Dept. of Conservation
45	Il. Dept. of Conservation
1.3	Morton Grove Park District
20	Princeton Park District
157	Kane Co. Forest Pres. Dist.
62	St. Charles Park District
222	Il. Dept. of Conservation
105	Cook Co. Forest Pres. Dist.
297.4	Il. Dept. of Conservation
59	Northern Ill. University
111	Il. Dept. of Conservation
88	Il. Dept. of Conservation
39.5	Il. Dept. of Conservation
5	Patton Township Cemetery Trust.
53	Il. Dept. of Conservation
32	Long Grove Park District
120	Vincennes University
67	Il. Dept. of Conservation
53	Il. Dept. of Conservation
160	Vermilion Co. Conservation Dist.
245	Cook Co. Forest Pres. Dist.
1,460	Il. Dept. of Conservation
70	Cook Co. Forest Pres. Dist.
9	Cook Co. Forest Pres. Dist.
26.6	Il. Dept. of Conservation
560	Cook Co. Forest Pres. Dist.
582	Il. Dept. of Conservation
37	Il. Dept. of Conservation
500	Il. Dept. of Conservation
440	Cook Co. Forest Pres. Dist.
26	City of Elgin
161	Il. Dept. of Conservation
176	Lake Co. Forest Pres. Dist.
67	Il. Dept. of Conservation
5	Town of Yates
32	Il. Dept. of Conservation

Table does not include six areas dedicated between September 1, 1981 and May 30, 1982.

and the Town of Yates. One nature preserve is owned by the American Electric Power Company.

## **A DIRECTORY OF ILLINOIS NATURE PRESERVES AS OF SEPTEMBER 1, 1981**

The following 89 areas, totaling 19,361 acres, have been dedicated as Illinois nature preserves. They are listed alphabetically.

### **AYERS SAND PRAIRIE NATURE PRESERVE, CARROLL COUNTY**

**Location:** Three miles southeast of Savanna and ½ mile east of Ayers.

**Size:** 109 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Mississippi River Section of the Illinois River Sand Areas Natural Division.

**Natural Features:** The sand dunes and prairie of the preserve are dominated by little bluestem, June grass, and hairy grama grass, with poppy mallow, blazing star, western sunflower and the rare false heather *Hudsonia tomentosa* also present. Black oak and cottonwood occur in blowouts along with scattered shrubs of aromatic sumac. Notable animal residents include the ornate box turtle, six-lined racerunner and grasshopper sparrow.

**Ownership and Access:** The area is owned by the Illinois Department of Conservation and a parking area has been developed. Site Superintendent, 4577 Rt. 84N., Savanna, Illinois, (815/273-2731).

### **BABER WOODS NATURE PRESERVE, EDGAR COUNTY**

**Location:** 5 miles northeast of Westfield.

**Size:** 59 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Division.

**Natural Features:** The area is a mesic, near virgin forest of white oak, sugar maple, pignut hickory, and black oak located on the Shelbyville moraine. Some of the oaks have a diameter exceeding 40 inches. The woods contain a rich herbaceous flora.

**Ownership and Access:** The preserve is owned by the Nature Conservancy and managed by Eastern Illinois University. Access is by permission of the Division of Life Sciences of Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, (217/581-3011).

### **BEACH CEMETERY PRAIRIE NATURE PRESERVE, OGLE COUNTY**

**Location:** Ten miles south of Rockford and two miles northwest of Holcomb on the north side of Big Mound Road.

**Size:** 2.5 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Division.

**Natural Features:** A near virgin dry prairie that has developed on a gravel kame, this small prairie has a rich assemblage of plants. Little bluestem, prairie dropseed, and porcupine grass are prevalent while such unusual species as prairie smoke, golden alexanders, and prairie dandelion also occur.

**Ownership and Access:** The Natural Land Institute owns and manages this tract of land, (815/964-6666).

## **BEALL WOODS NATURE PRESERVE, WABASH COUNTY**

**Location:** On the Wabash River, 5 miles south of Mt. Carmel, east of Keensburg, and north of Rochester.

**Size:** 329 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** The Bottomlands Section and the Southern Uplands Section of the Wabash Border Division.

**Natural Features:** This is a unique near-virgin forest with a great variety of trees, including a number of record sized individuals. Both bottomland and upland forests are represented with eleven kinds of oaks and six kinds of hickories being present. Some rare plants found here include bloodleaf and a panic grass. Also found on the preserve is a permanent stream and outcrops of sandstone and coal.

**Ownership and Access:** The preserve is owned and managed by the Illinois Department of Conservation. Trails have been developed and visitors are oriented at the Red Barn Nature Center adjoining the preserve. Site Superintendent, R.R. 2, Mt. Carmel, Illinois, (618/298-2442).

## **BELMONT PRAIRIE NATURE PRESERVE, DUPAGE COUNTY**

**Location:** South of Ogden Avenue, west of Belmont Road, at the end of Prairie Avenue, on Cross Street.

**Size:** 10.4 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Morainal Section of the Northeastern Morainal Division.

**Natural Features:** The preserve displays high quality dry-mesic, wet-mesic and wet prairie as well as some brush and dense thicket areas. Dominant in the dry-mesic area are porcupine grass and Canada bluegrass, while the wet-mesic prairie shows an abundance of sedge and blue-joint grass. Notable plant species include Indian plantain, yellow gentian, and the threatened small white lady's slipper.

Ownership and Access: The preserve is owned and managed by the Downer's Grove Park District. Access and trails have been developed. (312/963-1304).

## **BICENTENNIAL PRAIRIE NATURE PRESERVE, OGLE COUNTY**

Location: Northeastern Ogle County in the rural countryside 1.5 miles east of the Rock River. One-half mile south of the intersection of Crestview Road and Kishwaukee Road.

Size: 11.2 acres

Natural Division and Section: Freeport Section of the Rock River Hill Country Division.

Natural Features: Dry-mesic dolomite prairie and dry-mesic gravel prairie are present on the preserve with porcupine grass, leadplant and cream wild indigo being dominant on the dolomite prairie and side-oats grama and little bluestem prevailing on the gravel prairie. The area also provides habitat for small mammals, some reptiles, and a few ground nesting birds.

Ownership and Access: The preserve is owned and managed by the Prairie Preservation Society of Ogle County. A trail circles the prairie. Access is from Crestview Road. (815/732-2724).

## **BIG CREEK WOODS NATURE PRESERVE, RICHLAND COUNTY**

Location: Two and one-half miles south of Olney on the east side of Illinois Route 130.

Size: 40 acres

Natural Division and Section: Mt. Vernon Hill Country Section of the Southern Till Plain Division.

Natural Features: The area supports dry, mesic and wet second-growth forests on a gently dissected till plain and on the floodplain of Big Creek. White oak and sugar maple predominate on upland sites with hackberry and sycamore being common in ravines and pin oak along the creek. The creek forms a permanent habitat for native fishes. Small outcrops of shale occur along the creek's banks.

Ownership and Access: The preserve is owned by the Nature Conservancy and leased to Olney Central College for management. Access is by permit from the biology department of the college. (618/395-4351).

## **BLACK PARTRIDGE WOODS NATURE PRESERVE, COOK COUNTY**

Location: On the north side of Bluff Road, northwest and across the Des Plaines River valley from Lemont.

Size: 80 acres



Natural Division and Section: Morainal Section of the Northeastern Morainal Division.

Natural Features: The area features river bluffs and ravines with mesic forest of sugar maple, basswood, red oak and white oak. Some bur oak, elm and ash grow along the stream. Skunk cabbage and marsh marigold grow in seep springs. The preserve includes a springfed stream with sculpins and other fishes. There are bedrock outcrops in the stream bed.

Ownership and Access: The preserve is owned and managed by the Cook County Forest Preserve District, River Forest, Illinois. A parking area and trails are provided. (312/369-9420).

## **BOIS DU SANGAMON NATURE PRESERVE, MACON COUNTY**

Location: On the east shore of Lake Decatur, opposite Faries Park and just north of the Norfolk and Western Railroad.

Size: 30 acres

Natural Division and Section: Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Division.

Natural Features: A high quality second-growth mesic upland forest is represented here. It is dominated by white oak, black oak, sugar maple, and red oak. Undisturbed examples of this forest type are rare in the Grand Prairie. A ravine with showy displays of spring wildflowers is also found at the preserve.

Ownership and Access: The preserve is owned by the Macon County Conservation District and access is via an abandoned railroad right-of-way. Trails within the preserve are being developed. (217/423-7708).

## **BRAIDWOOD DUNES AND SAVANNA NATURE PRESERVE, WILL COUNTY**

Location: One mile southeast of Braidwood and one-quarter mile south of State Route 113.

Size: 145 acres

Natural Division and Section: Kankakee Sand Area Section of the Grand Prairie Division.

Natural Features: Habitats represented in this preserve include marsh, sedge meadow, sand prairie, and savanna. Dominant species in the sedge meadows are tussock sedge and bluejoint grass with cord grass, switch grass and marsh fern occurring as common associates, as well as an unusual occurrence of sand cherry. The sand savanna supports black oak, porcupine grass and Pennsylvania sedge in addition to such exceptional features as huckleberry and clammy false fox-glove. Some rare species have been found in the sand prairies, among them being

black and purple chokeberry, yellow-eyed grass, and the threatened grass pink orchid and tubercled orchid.

**Ownership and Access:** The preserve is owned by the Will County Forest Preserve District and is managed with the assistance of Olivet Nazarene College. Access to the area is currently from State Route 113 via the Reed-Custer School grounds. (815/727-8700).

## **BUSSE FOREST NATURE PRESERVE, COOK COUNTY**

**Location:** North of Higgins Road (Route 72) between Salt Creek and the forest preserve entrance drive, within the Ned Brown Forest Preserve.

**Size:** 440 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Morainal Section of the Northeastern Morainal Division.

**Natural Features:** A rich forest of oaks, sugar maple, and basswood on upland sites and swamp white oak and ash on flat and poorly drained areas is present. Marshes occur in the larger depressions. There is an abundance of wildflowers and shrubs, including large numbers of large-flowered trillium.

**Ownership and Access:** The area is owned by the Cook County Forest Preserve District, River Forest, Illinois. Parking is available and some trails are developed. (312/369-9420).

## **CAP SAUERS HOLDINGS NATURE PRESERVE, COOK COUNTY**

**Location:** West of 104th Avenue, south of Route 83, to Ford Road and McCarthy Road (123rd Street).

**Size:** 1,520 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Morainal Section of the Northeastern Morainal Division.

**Natural Features:** Upland forest, marsh, intermittent streams, ponds, and moraine topography are represented. The vegetation includes second-growth oak-hickory forest, thickets and marshes on rolling topography. The Visitation Esker, one of the best defined examples of this glacial feature in the Chicago region, is on the preserve.

**Ownership and Access:** The preserve is owned by the Cook County Forest Preserve District, River Forest, Illinois. Trails have been developed and parking is available at Teason's Woods on the east side of 104th Avenue. (312/369-9420).

## **CARPENTER PARK NATURE PRESERVE, SANGAMON COUNTY**

**Location:** North side of the Sangamon River, west of Peoria Road (Business Loop I-55) on the north edge of Springfield.

Size: 322 acres

Natural Division and Section: Springfield Section of the Grand Prairie Division.

Natural Features: The preserve displays both upland and floodplain forest with outcrops of bedrock present along the Sangamon River. The uplands support black oak and white oak, with red oak and white oak on slopes and in dissected ravines. The floodplain supports silver maple and sycamore with scattered bur oak and hackberry. There is a rich ground cover of wildflowers and notable birds known to nest in the preserve include pileated woodpeckers, brown creepers and lark sparrows.

Ownership and Access: The preserve is owned and managed by the Springfield Park District, Springfield, Illinois and trails have been developed. (217/522-8434).

## **CASTLE ROCK NATURE PRESERVE, OGLE COUNTY**

Location: Four miles southwest of Oregon on the west side of Route 2 within Castle Rock State Park.

Size: 589 acres

Natural Division and Section: Oregon Section of the Rock River Hill Country Division.

Natural Features: The area includes woodland, dry prairie, a creek, sandstone cliffs, marsh, and springs. Upland forests consist of black oak, white oak, and hickory, with white oak, red oak, butternut, and witch hazel in the deeper ravines. The dry prairie remnants include such species as little bluestem, June grass, leadplant, and western sunflower. Many rare plants are found in the preserve, including rock spikemoss, shining clubmoss, ground pine, ground cedar, long beech fern, broad beech fern, showy orchis, and yellow lady's slipper. More species of ferns are found here than in any other northern Illinois location.

Ownership and Access: Owned by the Illinois Department of Conservation, the preserve is included in Castle Rock State Park. Site Superintendent, R.R. 2, Oregon, Illinois, (815/732-7329).

## **CEDAR GLEN NATURE PRESERVE, HANCOCK COUNTY**

Location: One mile east of Warsaw, south of the Great River Road, next to Kibbe Life Science Station.

Size: 145 acres

Natural Division and Section: Glaciated Section of the Middle Mississippi Border Division.

Natural Features: The preserve consists of portions of two forested ravines in the Mississippi River bluffs. White oak predominates on the dry slopes while red oak, sugar

maple, and basswood occur on the lower slopes. All the stands are second-growth. The ravines contain limestone cliffs and bluffs as well as permanent streams. The area serves as a roost for large numbers of bald eagles during the winter months.

**Ownership and Access:** The area is owned by the Nature Conservancy and leased to Western Illinois University for management. Access is by permission of the adjacent Kibbe Life Sciences Field Station of W.I.U. and is restricted during winter months to protect the eagles. (217/256-4583).

## **CEDAR LAKE BOG NATURE PRESERVE, LAKE COUNTY**

**Location:** Along the west edge of Cedar Lake just west of Lake Villa.

**Size:** 27.5 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Morainal Section of the Northeastern Morainal Division.

**Natural Features:** The preserve includes youthful lake-side bog with floating peat mat, sedge and cattail marsh and a portion of a natural glacial lake. A disturbed upland woods is also present. Interesting plant species include cranberry, sundew, pink St. John's wort, dwarf birch, pitcher plant, and buckbean.

**Ownership and Access:** The area is owned by the Illinois Department of Conservation and access is via foot from Route 132 to the edge of the marsh. Site Superintendent, 729 East State Park Road, Spring Grove, Illinois (312/587-5512).

## **CHESTNUT HILLS NATURE PRESERVE, PULASKI COUNTY**

**Location:** One half-mile east of Olmsted on the north bank of the Ohio River.

**Size:** 212 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Cretaceous Hills Section of the Coastal Plain Division.

**Natural Features:** Displaying near virgin forest of beech and oak in deep ravines and on bluffs of the Ohio River, the preserve takes its name from a native stand of American chestnut that once existed in the area. The springfed streams in the preserve support a good population of the endangered dusky salamander. Interesting vegetation includes the silverbell tree, white basswood, puttyroot orchid, crane fly orchid, and *Melantheia hastata*. There are good outcrops of cretaceous and tertiary (paleocene) deposits on the area.

**Ownership and Access:** The area is owned by the Illinois Department of Conservation. Acquisition is incomplete and access is via the Ohio River or across private

land by permission of adjacent landowners. Site Manager, Box 77, Miller City, Illinois. (618/776-5689).

## **COLORED SANDS BLUFF NATURE PRESERVE, WINNEBAGO COUNTY**

**Location:** Six miles west of Rockton on the east side of Sugar River, north of Yale Bridge Road and south of Hass Road.

**Size:** 44 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Located at the boundary of the Freeport Section of the Rock Hill Country Division and the Winnebago Section of the Northeastern Morainal Division.

**Natural Features:** The area represents sand dune and ridge topography with dry upland forest, and prairie outcrops of sandstone are present. Also represented are river bottom forest, floodplain meander scars and sloughs, sand savanna, and a relatively unpolluted permanent stream. Several rare species of animals and plants are found here, including the blue-spotted salamander and bearberry. A 40-foot sand dune on the east river bluff is of geological significance.

**Ownership and Access:** The area is owned by the Winnebago County Forest Preserve District, Rockford, Illinois. Access from the south is via a private drive off of Yale Bridge Road. Access from the north is possible on foot across Colored Sands Forest Preserve (815/987-2508).

## **CRANBERRY SLOUGH NATURE PRESERVE, COOK COUNTY**

**Location:** West of Mannheim Road (U.S. 45) and south of 95th Street.

**Size:** 400 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Morainal Section of the Northeastern Morainal Division.

**Natural Features:** A peat bog containing communities of cattail, bluejoint grass, European buckthorn, buttonbush and sphagnum-hardback is the main feature. Upland forests of bur oak and white oak grow on the rolling topography. Unusual plants include royal fern, purple chokeberry, and possibly cranberry. Beaver are present.

**Ownership and Access:** The preserve is owned by the Cook County Forest Preserve District, River Forest, Illinois. Trails are developed and parking is available at Belly Deep Slough. (312/369-9420).

## **CRETACEOUS HILLS NATURE PRESERVE, POPE COUNTY**

**Location:** Five miles southwest of Bay City.

**Size:** 240 acres

Natural Division and Section: Cretaceous Hills Section of the coastal Plain Division.

Natural Features: Upland forest of black oak, white oak and pignut hickory is found on dry gravel hills. Acid seep springs occur in some ravines and support cinnamon fern, marsh fern and royal fern. Notable wildflowers include dwarf crested iris.

Ownership and Access: The preserve is owned and managed by the Illinois Department of Conservation. The area is remote and access has not been developed. Site Superintendent, P.O. Box 708, Metropolis, Illinois, (618/524-4712).

## **CREVECOEUR NATURE PRESERVE, TAZEWELL COUNTY**

Location: Southern end of Ft. Crevecoeur Park in the Village of Creve Coeur.

Size: 23 acres

Natural Division and Section: Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Natural Division.

Natural Features: Glacial drift hill prairie and dry-mesic upland forest are represented on the preserve with little bluestem and side-oats grama dominating the prairie. The uncommon prairie plants Canada milk vetch and French grass also occur. Sugar maple, red oak, and basswood cover the majority of the forest with some hackberry, red elm, and sassafras occurring on the dry ridgetops. The rich woods have showy displays of spring wildflowers with white trout lily, wild ginger, and spring beauty common.

Ownership and Access: The preserve is owned and managed by the Village of Creve Coeur. Access is off south end of the park road in Ft. Crevecoeur Park. A trail has been developed. (309/694-3193).

## **EDWARD L. RYERSON NATURE PRESERVE, LAKE COUNTY**

Location: Northwest of Riverwoods between Riverwoods Road, Deerfield Road, and the Des Plaines River. Part of the 550-acre Edward L. Ryerson Conservation Area.

Size: 278.88 acres

Natural Division and Section: Morainal Section of the Northeastern Morainal Division.

Natural Features: An old-growth forest of white oak, black oak, sugar maple, white ash, bur oak and silver maple occurs along the Des Plaines River. Several large hackberry and black walnut trees are present. The forest supports a luxuriant spring flora including an abundance of large-flowered trillium.

**Ownership and Access:** The area is owned and managed by the Lake County Forest Preserve District. Access is from Aptakisic Road. The Forest Preserve District has developed parking, trails, and a nature center. Area Supervisor, Ryerson Conservation Area, Deerfield, Illinois, (312/948-7750).

## **FERN ROCKS NATURE PRESERVE, JACKSON COUNTY**

**Location:** Located south and west of Indian Creek and the park road in the north part of Giant City State Park.

**Size:** 170 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Greater Shawnee Hills Section of the Shawnee Hills Division.

**Natural Features:** Dry and mesic forest, cliffs, an intermittent stream, and sandstone bedrock outcrops can be found here. The dry bluffs contain a post and blackjack oak community, while the steep hillsides are covered with white oak, black oak, shagbark hickory, and flowering dogwood. A rich forest of sugar maple and red oak occurs on north-facing slopes. The area contains an exceptional display of spring wildflowers; Forbes' saxifrage and French's shooting star are two of the rare species. Also present is the large-flowered white mint (*Synandra hispidula*), which is under review as nationally threatened with extinction.

**Ownership and Access:** The preserve is owned and managed by the Illinois Department of Conservation. Parking is available at the Stone Fort parking area and a trail has been developed. Site Superintendent, R.R. 1, Makanda, Illinois, (618/457-4836).

## **FOREST PARK NATURE PRESERVE, PEORIA COUNTY**

**Location:** North of Peoria, between Routes 29 and 88 at the Forest Park Nature Center.

**Size:** 90 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Division.

**Natural Features:** A rugged river bluff area supporting a mesic hardwood forest in a deep ravine is found here. A relict population of the rare Schreber's aster also occurs in the ravine woods.

**Ownership and Access:** The preserve is owned by the Forest Park foundation and is managed by the Peoria Park District. Access is by permission of the naturalist of the Forest Park Nature Center, (309/688-6413).

## **FRANKLIN CREEK NATURE PRESERVE, LEE COUNTY**

**Location:** Two miles west of Franklin Grove, north of Illinois Route 38.

**Size:** 96 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Oregon Section of the Rock River Hill Country Division.

**Natural Features:** The area includes mesic forests in ravines with such unusual plants as paw paw and yew being present. Outcrops along Franklin Creek include the New Richmond Sandstone, the oldest formation in the state. Aquatic habitats include Franklin Creek and several large springs.

**Ownership and Access:** The area is owned by the Illinois Department of Conservation. Land acquisition is incomplete and access is from Mill Road where a parking area and a trail are being developed. Site Superintendent, R.R. 1, Mt. Morris, Illinois, (815/946-3717).

## **FREEPORT PRAIRIE NATURE PRESERVE, STEPHENSON COUNTY**

**Location:** South edge of Freeport, west of Walnut Road.

**Size:** 6 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Freeport Section of the Rock River Hill Country Division.

**Natural Features:** This is a high quality undisturbed dry dolomite prairie. Vegetation lies on shallow silty loam over dolomite bedrock on a steep north-facing bluff of the ancient channel of Yellow Creek. The area is small, but contains many rare and endangered plants such as pasque flower, prairie buttercup, and yellow painted cup.

**Ownership and Access:** The area is owned by the Jane Addamsland Park Foundation and managed by Highland Community College in Freeport. Parking is available at the east end of the prairie, off of Walnut Road. (815/235-6121).

## **FULTS HILL PRAIRIE NATURE PRESERVE, MONROE COUNTY**

**Location:** One mile east of the village of Fults, which is 25 miles south of Belleville.

**Size:** 532 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Northern Section of the Ozark Division.

**Natural Features:** The vegetation includes hill prairies, dry upland forests and rich mesic ravine forests. Physical features include the towering limestone bluffs facing the Mississippi River floodplain, talus slopes below these bluffs, and dissected karst plains including several sink-





hole ponds. Notable plants include the Missouri brown-eyed susan, annual bedstraw and stickleaf. Unusual animals include the plains scorpion, coachwhip snake, flat-headed snake, Great Plains rat snake, and narrow-mouthed toad.

**Ownership and Access:** The preserve is owned by the Illinois Department of Conservation. Access is from the "Bluff Road" southeast of Fults. Information is available from the Site Manager, Ft. De Chartres State Park, Prairie du Rocher, Illinois (618/284-7230).

## **GAVIN BOG AND PRAIRIE NATURE PRESERVE, LAKE COUNTY**

**Location:** In northwestern Lake County, southeast of Fox Lake, south of Illinois Highway 50 and north of Long Lake and Rollins Road.

**Size:** 104.7 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Morainal Section of the Northeastern Morainal Division.

**Natural Features:** The area is very diverse with respect to natural communities with marsh, sedge meadow, wet prairie, forested bog and tall shrub bog being among those present. Six state endangered plant species and two state threatened plant species occur here including highbush blueberry. There is also a wide array of wildlife to be found on the preserve.

**Ownership and Access:** The preserve is owned and managed by the Lake County Forest Preserve District. Access is from the southeast off of Rollins Road. No trails have been developed. (312/367-6640).

## **GENSBURG - MARKHAM PRAIRIE NATURE PRESERVE, COOK COUNTY**

**Location:** Within the village of Markham, east of Kedzie Avenue, west of the Tri-State Tollway, between 155th Street and 157th Street.

**Size:** 95 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Chicago Lake Plain Section of the Northeastern Morainal Division.

**Natural Features:** Habitats represented here include dry-mesic and mesic sand prairie, mesic and wet-mesic prairie, and sedge meadow. The prairie is one of the few remaining on lake plain deposits and has a diverse composition reflecting variations in soil and moisture. Mesic sites are dominated by Indian grass, little bluestem, and big bluestem, with cord grass and switch grass in the wetter areas. On the sandy ridges little bluestem and huckleberry are common. Cord grass, bluejoint grass, and sedges dominate the low, peaty swales. There are a number of rare and unusual species present, including small sundrops, narrow-leaved sundew, grass pink orchid, colic root, yellow-eyed grass, and screwstem. Notable animals include bobwhite quail, prairie green snake, red fox, and the regal fritillary butterfly.

**Ownership and Access:** The preserve is owned by Northeastern Illinois University. Access is from 155th Street and Troy Avenue, with 2 miles of developed trails. (312/583-4050).

## **GEORGE S. PARK NATURE PRESERVE, PUTNAM COUNTY**

**Location:** Two miles northeast of the intersection of Routes 18 and 26.

**Size:** 80 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Division.

**Natural Features:** Old-growth upland and ravine forests containing basswood, white oak, red oak, bur oak, and shagbark hickory are present here, with an understory of hard maple, hop hornbeam, and redbud. Goldenseal, the

yellow-flowered form of purple trillium, and showy orchis are some of the more unusual and attractive plant species present.

**Ownership and Access:** The preserve is owned by the Illinois Department of Conservation and managed by Putnam County Conservation District. Access is from the county road at the south end of the preserve. (815/339-2127).



## **GOOSE LAKE PRAIRIE NATURE PRESERVE, GRUNDY COUNTY**

**Location:** North of Lorenzo Road and east of Jugtown Road, halfway between Morris and Interstate Route 55.

**Size:** 1,537.3 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Division.

**Natural Features:** Dry, mesic and wet prairie, marshes, and pothole ponds are the habitats represented here. It is the largest remnant of prairie in Illinois. Wildlife include coyote, deer, pocket gopher and the western harvest mouse. The area also supports an abundance of waterfowl and such uncommon birds as the Bell's vireo, Henslow's sparrow and three species of rails. Wildflowers are abundant in late summer and fall.

**Ownership and Access:** The area is owned and managed by the Illinois Department of Conservation. Access is via a visitor center off Jugtown Road on the west side of the preserve. Site Superintendent, 5010 North Jugtown Road, Morris, Illinois, (815/942-2899).

## **GRANT CREEK PRAIRIE NATURE PRESERVE, WILL COUNTY**

**Location:** East of I-55 in the Des Plaines Conservation Area.

**Size:** 78 acres

Natural Division and Section: Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Division.

Natural Features: Mesic and wet prairie are represented in the preserve. The wet prairie is dominated by bluejoint grass, sedges, and cordgrass, while species of the mesic prairie include big bluestem, prairie dropseed, and Indian grass. More than 100 native prairie species are present at the site, one of the largest tracts of mesic and wet prairie remaining in Illinois.

Ownership and Access: The preserve is owned and managed by the Illinois Department of Conservation. Access is from the frontage road off I-55 at the Wilmington Exit. Site Superintendent, R.R. 3, Box 167, Wilmington, Illinois, (815/423-5326).

## **HALESIA NATURE PRESERVE, MASSAC COUNTY**

Location: Along the Ohio River, 3 miles northwest of Metropolis on the Cook Coal terminal property.

Size: 14.7 acres

Natural Division and Section: Bottomlands Section of the Coastal Plain Division.

Natural Features: The area consists of slope and ravine forest on a dissected river terrace which supports many rare species of woody and herbaceous plants. The slope forest includes red oak, shagbark hickory, kentucky coffee tree, white oak, bitternut hickory, persimmon, and the rare silverbell, *Halesia carolina*, for which the preserve is named. The ravine forest includes silver maple, box elder and honey locust, with hackberry, pecan, sweet gum, and paw paw in higher areas. Rare plant species include the silverbell tree, white basswood, *Carex socialis*, *Dioclea multiflora*, and *Decliptera brachiata*.

Ownership and Access: The preserve is owned by the American Electric Power Company. Access is by permission of the company. (618/524-2637).

## **HARLEM HILLS NATURE PRESERVE, WINNEBAGO COUNTY**

Location: One mile southwest of Rock Cut State Park, east of Route 173 and south of Nimtz Road.

Size: 53 acres

Natural Division and Section: Winnebago Section of the Northeastern Morainal Division.

Natural Features: A gravel hill prairie dominated by little bluestem, northern dropseed, side-oats grama, and Indian grass can be found in the preserve. Forbs include purple coneflower, prairie clover, pasque flower, and shooting star. Among the rare plants found in the area are downy yellow painted cup and prairie buttercup.

**Ownership and Access:** The preserve is owned by the Illinois Department of Conservation. A small parking area is provided on Flora Drive on the north side of the preserve. Site Superintendent, R.R. 1, Box A-49, Caledonia, Illinois, (815/885-3612).

## **HENRY ALLAN GLEASON NATURE PRESERVE, MASON COUNTY**

**Location:** Three miles north of Topeka within Sand Ridge State Forest.

**Size:** 110 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Illinois River Section of the Illinois River and Mississippi River Sand Area Division.

**Natural Features:** The principal feature of the preserve is a 60 foot high stabilized sand dune known as Devil's Tower. The vegetation consists of dry sand prairies and sparse vegetation associated with the blowout. This is the only Illinois locality for bladderpod (*Lesquerella ludoviciana*), a western plant.

**Ownership and Access:** It is owned by the Illinois Department of Conservation and managed as a part of Sand Ridge State Forest. Roadside parking is available. Site Superintendent, P.O. Box 82, Forest City, Illinois, (309/597-2212).

## **HERON POND - LITTLE BLACK SLOUGH NATURE PRESERVE, JOHNSON COUNTY**

**Location:** The preserve consists of three separate units within the 3,694 acres of State holdings, which include Heron Pond-Wildcat Bluff, Goose Pond, and Little Black Slough. Four miles south-southwest of Vienna.



Size: 1,861 acres

Natural Division and Section: Bottomland Section of the Coastal Plain Division and Lesser Shawnee Hills Section of the Shawnee Hills Division.

Natural Features: Habitats include bottomland forest, swamp, bluffs of sandstone and limestone, hill prairie and the Cache River. The lowland forests are dominated by Shumard oak, cherry bark oak, swamp chestnut oak, mockernut hickory, and big shellbark hickory, with sweet gum and catalpa being found locally. Upland forests are of white oak, chinquapin oak, red oak and pignut hickory. The swamps are dominated by bald cypress and swamp tupelo. Wildlife includes a nesting colony of great blue herons and many southern swamp creatures such as the cottonmouth water moccasin, bird-voiced treefrog and banded pigmy sunfish. Notable plants include the American strawberry bush and sponge plant.

Ownership and Access: The area is owned and managed by the Illinois Department of Conservation. Access is by a public road running north from Forman. A parking area and trails have been developed. Site Superintendent, Box 120, Goreville, Illinois, (618/995-2411).

## **HORSESHOE BOTTOM NATURE PRESERVE, VERMILION COUNTY**

Location: Three miles east of Collison on the east side of the Middle Fork of the Vermilion River, within Middle Fork State Fish and Wildlife Area.

Size: 51.8 acres

Natural Division and Section: Vermilion River Section of the Wabash Border Division.

Natural Features: Floodplain and upland forest are present here, with the floodplain forest ringed by a semicircular bluff. Seeps emanating from the base of the bluff feed semipermanent sloughs which contain swamp white oak, pin oak, buttonbush, and willow. Black ash grows in the seepage areas, while green ash and silver maple grow on the floodplain. Sugar maple and red oak abound on better drained terraces and chinquapin oak, white oak, black oak, and red cedar are supported on the bluffs.

Ownership and Access: The area is owned and managed by the Illinois Department of Conservation. Due to the remoteness of the area, no access has been developed. Site Superintendent, R.R. 1, Oakwood, Illinois, (217/442-4915).

## **HORSESHOE LAKE NATURE PRESERVE, ALEXANDER COUNTY**

Location: Two separate tracts within Horseshoe Lake Conservation Area south of Olive Branch. One is southeast of the Park headquarters, and the other is at the southern end of Horseshoe Island.

Size: 492 acres

Natural Division and Section: Bottomland Section of the Coastal Plain Division.

Natural Features: The timbered tract on Horseshoe Island is a near virgin forest of beech, sugar maple, and swamp chestnut oak, with a bald cypress and swamp tupelo community in sloughs and bordering Horseshoe Lake. The second tract is characterized by second-growth red oak, swamp chestnut oak, elm, and bitternut hickory with sweet gum, pin oak, and Drummond's red maple in the wetter places. Unusual plants include the red buckeye, cucumber magnolia and willow oak. Notable animals include the mole salamander, cottonmouth and other swamp species.

Ownership and Access: Owned by the Illinois Department of Conservation, the areas are managed as part of the Horseshoe Lake Conservation Area. Public access to the island tract is by boat and to the west tract is via the road at its north end. Access is restricted to the period from March 15 to October 15. Site Manager, R.R. 1, Cache, Illinois, (618/776-5689).



## **ILLINOIS BEACH NATURE PRESERVE, LAKE COUNTY**

Location: On Lake Michigan north of Waukegan, south of Illinois Beach State Park Lodge and east of the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad.

Size: 829 acres

Natural Division and Section: Lake Michigan Dunes Section of the Northeastern Morainal Division.

Natural Features: The preserve includes beach, dunes, and alternating sand ridges and swales. The drier ridges support a scrub black oak community while the lakeshore dunes are dominated by bearberry and trailing juniper. Sand prairie dominates most of the low ridges and swales. Aquatic communities include vast cattail marshes, wet sedge meadows, the Dead River and Lake Michigan. Rare flowers include the downy yellow painted cup, shrubby cinquefoil and many orchids. The preserve includes a grove of pine trees planted about the turn of the century. The



preserve provides excellent wildlife habitat and is an important refuge for migrating birds.

**Ownership and Access:** The area is owned by the Illinois Department of Conservation. Parking is available just south of the Illinois Beach Lodge. An interpretive center and trails have been developed. Site Superintendent, Illinois Beach State Park, Zion, Illinois, (312/336-0120).

## **JASPER COUNTY PRAIRIE CHICKEN NATURE PRESERVE, JASPER COUNTY**

**Location:** North and east of Bogata

**Size:** 407 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Effingham Plain Section of the Southern Till Plain Division.

**Natural Features:** The sanctuary is dedicated to the preservation of the endangered greater prairie chicken in Illinois. The preserve consists of formerly cultivated land that is managed for the production of optimal habitat for the species. Portions of the preserve were donated to the state by the Prairie Chicken Foundation of Illinois.

**Ownership and Access:** The area is owned by the Illinois Department of Conservation and managed by the Wildlife Research Section of the Illinois Natural History Survey. Access is by permission of the Illinois Natural History Survey, Effingham. (217/333-6870).

## **JURGENSON WOODS NORTH NATURE PRESERVE, COOK COUNTY**

**Location:** South of 183rd Street, east of the forest preserve entrance drive, and west of Calumet Expressway.

**Size:** 120 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Chicago Lake Plain Section of the Northeastern Morainal Division.

**Natural Features:** Mesic forest, wet forest and a permanent stream are the habitats represented in the preserve. White oak, red oak, and basswood occur in the southern part, while pin oak dominates on wet sites. Notable species found here include black gum, purple chokeberry, cinnamon fern, and low blueberry.

**Ownership and Access:** The area is owned by the Cook County Forest Preserve District, River Forest, Illinois. Parking is provided and trails have been developed. (312/369-9420).

## **KANKAKEE RIVER NATURE PRESERVE, KANKAKEE AND WILL COUNTIES**

**Location:** Two separate tracts: An island in the Kankakee River known as Langham or Altorf Island, and both sides of the river six miles northwest of Kankakee at the westernmost edge of Kankakee River State Park.



Size: 139 acres

Natural Division and Section: Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Division.

Natural Features: The island is mostly disturbed but contains a rim of forest and, in some places, dry prairie-like slopes. It is a bedrock island in the Kankakee River gorge and has bedrock outcrops on its banks. The outstanding feature of the preserve is the only known natural population of the Kankakee mallow (a wildflower) in the world. The western tract contains a relatively undisturbed cross-section of the Kankakee River gorge.

Ownership and Access: The preserve is owned by the Illinois Department of Conservation and managed as a part of Kankakee River State Park. Access to the island is by permission of the park ranger and normally requires a boat. Access to the western tract is provided by a parking area and trails on Route 113. Site Superintendent, R.R. 1, Bourbonnais, Illinois. (815/933-1383).

## **KETTLE MORaine NATURE PRESERVE, MCHENRY COUNTY**

Location: Two tracts within McHenry Dam - Lake De-fiance State Park, three miles southeast of McHenry.

Size: 242 acres

Natural Division and Section: Morainal Section of the Northeast Morainal Division.

Natural Features: The two tracts contain examples of marsh, bog, fen, and forest, as well as kettle moraine topography. The marshes contain such species as bluejoint grass, marsh fern, marsh marigold, cattail, bulrush, and several species of willows. The bog consists of a floating sphagnum mat with leather leaf and marsh St. John's wort. Upland areas are forested with white oak and hickories, with red oak occurring on slopes. Many wildflowers occur in the wooded area including shooting star, bird-foot violet, round lobed hepatica, bellwort, Greek valerian, and wild geranium. Glacial features such as kettleholes are well represented in the preserve.

Ownership and Access: The preserve is owned and managed by the Illinois Department of Conservation. Nature trails and a boardwalk have been developed. Site Superintendent, 914 S. River Road, McHenry, Illinois. (815/385-1624).

## **KINNIKINNICK CREEK NATURE PRESERVE, BOONE COUNTY**

Location: Part of Kinnikinnick Creek Conservation Area on Caledonia Road, 3.5 miles north of Caledonia.

Size: 57 acres

Natural Division and Section: Winnebago Section of the Northeastern Morainal Division.

**Natural Features:** Habitats represented here include upland and floodplain forest, marsh, and bedrock outcrops. The upland forest consists primarily of white oak, ash, basswood, black cherry, and ironwood, with red oak on north-facing slopes and protected areas. The floodplain forest contains black willow, butternut, black walnut, box elder, pussy willow, buckthorn, and elderberry. Marshy areas support sedges, rushes and other wetland species such as great angelica, great blue lobelia, and blue flag.

**Ownership and Access:** The preserve is owned by the Boone County Conservation District, Belvidere, Illinois. Parking and trails are provided. (815/547-7935).

## **LUSK CREEK CANYON NATURE PRESERVE, POPE COUNTY**

**Location:** Four miles northeast of Eddyville, north of the Eddyville blacktop road.

**Size:** 125 acres



Natural Division and Section: Greater Shawnee Hills  
Section of the Shawnee Hills Division.

Natural Features: The principal feature is a deep gorge eroded through Pennsylvania sandstone by Lusk Creek. The gorge is very scenic and supports relict populations of northern plants along its north-facing walls. Many rare plants, including the hayscented fern and at least 13 kinds of native orchids, occur here. The valley forests are dominated by sugar maple, beech, and tulip trees, with white oak and red oak predominating on the slopes and blackjack oak, post oak and scarlet oak on the bluff tops. The area includes a stone wall built by prehistoric Indians. Lusk Creek provides an unpolluted aquatic environment.

Ownership and Access: The preserve is owned and managed by the Illinois Department of Conservation. Access is presently via a parking area and foot trails on Shawnee National Forest land. Site Superintendent, R.R. 2, Equality, Illinois, (618/276-4405).

## **MACARTHUR WOODS NATURE PRESERVE, LAKE COUNTY**

Location: One and a half miles southeast of Libertyville. Bordered on the east by St. Mary's Road, on the south by Illinois Highway 60, and by the Des Plaines River to the west.

Size: 446 acres

Natural Division and Section: Morainal Section of the  
Northeastern Morainal Division.

Natural Features: Habitats found here include dry-mesic upland forest, mesic and wet-mesic floodplain forest and northern flatwoods as well as a small sedge meadow. White oak dominates the upland forest with swamp white oak, green ash and American elm characteristic of the flatwoods. The high quality mesic floodplain forest features sugar maple, red oak and basswood, while silver maple, green ash and willows can be found along the river's edge. The preserve is significant in that the state endangered brown creeper and red-shouldered hawk are summer residents. Other rare species found in the preserve include the purple fringed orchid, rattlesnake plantain orchid, and the blue-winged warbler.

Ownership and Access: The preserve is owned and managed by the Lake County Forest Preserve District. Trails are being developed. (312/367-6640).

## **MARGERY C. CARLSON NATURE PRESERVE, LASALLE COUNTY**

Location: West side of Vermilion River, 3 miles southeast of Oglesby.

Size: 178 acres

Natural Division and Section: Grand Prairie Section of  
the Grand Prairie Division.

**Natural Features:** Dry-mesic forest, bluffs, and bedrock outcrops are represented here. The bluffs support white oak, bur oak, shagbark hickory, and wild black cherry while sugar maple, basswood, red oak, and butternut occur in the mesic upland sites as well as in some ravines. Several species of ferns and orchids are present and the herbaceous vegetation is generally rich.

**Ownership and Access:** The preserve is owned by the Illinois Chapter of the Nature Conservancy. Parking is available along the west side of the preserve and trails have been developed. (312/346-8166).

## **MARION COUNTY PRAIRIE CHICKEN NATURE PRESERVE, MARION COUNTY**

**Location:** Two miles south of Kinmundy.

**Size:** 160 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Mt. Vernon Hill Country Section of the Southern Till Plain Division.

**Natural Features:** The sanctuary is dedicated to the preservation of the endangered greater prairie chicken in Illinois. The preserve consists of formerly cultivated land that is managed for the production of optimal habitat for the species.

**Ownership and Access:** The preserve is owned by the Illinois Department of Conservation and managed by the Wildlife Research Section of the Illinois Natural History Survey. Site Superintendent, R.R. 1, Kinmundy, Illinois, (618/547-3558).

## **MASSAC FOREST NATURE PRESERVE, MASSAC COUNTY**

**Location:** Located in the eastern portion of Fort Massac State Park, directly east of I-24.

**Size:** 244.6 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Bottomlands Section of the Coastal Plain Natural Division.

**Natural Features:** A highly diversified area, the preserve is represented by several natural community types. Swamp exists as a bald cypress-dominated community with the threatened water elm and endangered storax occurring. A wet-mesic floodplain forest of cottonwood, black willow and American elm exists as does a southern flatwoods dominated by pin oak and swamp white oak. Seeps also occur on the preserve creating interesting small tributaries to Sevenmile Creek.

**Ownership and Access:** The preserve is owned and managed by the Illinois Department of Conservation. Access is through the park traveling due east on the park road. Some trails have been developed. Site Superintendent, P.O. Box 708, Metropolis, Illinois, (618/524-4712).

## **MERMET SWAMP NATURE PRESERVE, MASSAC COUNTY**

**Location:** Two miles south of Mermet at the southeast corner of Mermet Lake Conservation Area.

**Size:** 43 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Bottomland Section of the Coastal Plain Division and a small area of the Cretaceous Hills Section of the Coastal Plain Division.

**Natural Features:** An old-growth forest of pin oak, sweet gum, and swamp white oak occurs at the west end of the preserve. A second-growth community of bald cypress, swamp cottonwood and pumpkin ash occurs in the swamp. Red oak, white oak, and tulip tree predominate on the uplands. Red iris, arrow arum and American snowbell bush are some of the unusual plants present.

**Ownership and Access:** The area is owned by the Illinois Department of Conservation. No access or trails have been developed. Contact the Site Superintendent at Mermet Conservation Area before entering. Site Superintendent, R.R. 1, Belknap, Illinois, (618/524-5577).

## **MIDDLE FORK WOODS NATURE PRESERVE, VERMILION COUNTY**

**Location:** West of the Middle Fork of the Vermilion River at the north edge of Kickapoo State Park.

**Size:** 69.2 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Vermilion Section of the Wabash Border Division.

**Natural Features:** Upland and ravine forest habitats are represented in the preserve, with the uplands supporting black oak and white oak. Sugar maple, red oak, and basswood predominate on the slopes, with a scattering of American beech. Swamp white oak occurs in ephemeral ponds and small seep streams are found along the Middle Fork River bluff.

**Ownership and Access:** The Illinois Department of Conservation owns the preserve. Access and trails have not been developed. Site Superintendent, R.R. 1, Oakwood, Illinois, (217/442-4915).

## **MILLER-ANDERSON WOODS NATURE PRESERVE, BUREAU AND PUTNAM COUNTIES**

**Location:** West of Illinois Route 29 between Putnam and Bureau junction.

**Size:** 258 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Division.

**Natural Features:** A near-virgin forest of oak and hickory on the uplands and sugar maple and basswood in the ravines can be found in the preserve. The area consists of a high bluff on the west side of the Illinois River Valley and several ravines eroded in the bluff. Notable plants include showy orchis and Schreber's aster. South-facing ridges support small hill prairies. Seepage areas have produced large peat accumulations and support such plants as skunk cabbage and marsh marigold.

**Ownership and Access:** The preserve is owned by the Illinois Department of Conservation. The Putnam County tract is managed by the Putnam County Conservation District. Parking and toilet facilities are provided along the abandoned part of Route 29. Trails have been developed. (815/339-2127).

## **MISSISSIPPI RIVER SAND HILLS NATURE PRESERVE, HANCOCK COUNTY**

**Location:** One-half mile east of Warsaw, south of the Great River Road, west of Kibbe Life Science Station.

**Size:** 45 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Glaciated Section of the Middle Mississippi Border Division.

**Natural Features:** The principal features are the sand hills of cretaceous age which are not found elsewhere in the division. They support prairie dominated by little blue-stem, and upland forest of oak, hickory, maple, and basswood. Several saplings of American chestnut have been found in the area. There are also some seep springs present.

**Ownership and Access:** The preserve is owned by the Illinois Department of Conservation and leased to Western Illinois University for management. Access is by permission of the adjacent Kibbe Life Science Station of Western Illinois University. (217/256-2583).

## **MORTON GROVE PRAIRIE NATURE PRESERVE, COOK COUNTY**

**Location:** East of Waukegan Road and north of Dempster Street in the northeast portion of Prairieview Park, within the village of Morton Grove.

**Size:** 1.3 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Chicago Lake Plain Section of the Northeastern Morainal Division.

**Natural Features:** Mesic and wet-mesic prairies are habitats found in the preserve. Although a small tract of land, it is representative of prairie on highly fertile black soil. Notable species include little bluestem, Indian grass, yellow star grass and blue-eyed grass.

**Ownership and Access:** The preserve is owned by the Morton Grove Park District. Parking is available at the

southeast end of the prairie on park district land. (312/965-1200).

## **MYER WOODS NATURE PRESERVE, BUREAU COUNTY**

**Location:** Five miles east of Princeton, one mile south of U.S. Route 6.

**Size:** 20 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Division.

**Natural Features:** Represented within this preserve is a dry-mesic forest, with several narrow ravines evident. The woods is composed of large, old trees and has been described as a "best-of-its-kind old-growth woodlot." Black oak and white oak can be found here as well as such notable species as Jack-in-the-pulpit, wild geranium, and Seneca snakeroot.

**Ownership and Access:** The preserve is owned and managed by the Princeton Park District. No trails or access have been developed. (815/879-8146).

## **NELSON LAKE MARSH NATURE PRESERVE, KANE COUNTY**

**Location:** Southeastern Kane County, 2½ miles west of Batavia, and 5 miles northwest of Aurora.

**Size:** 157 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Morainal Section of the Northeastern Morainal Division.

**Natural Features:** Graminoid fen, marsh, and lake habitats are all present in the area. The fen contains the endangered bog arrowgrass, as well as important habitat for many bird species. Many rare plants occur in the marsh area including fringed gentian, hoary willow, and dwarf birch. Notable bird species include American bittern, Forster's tern, Bewick's wren, and the Yellow-headed blackbird.

**Ownership and Access:** The preserve is owned by the Kane County Forest Preserve District, Geneva, Illinois. Access is off of Nelson Lake Road, south of Main Street Road. (312/232-2400).

## **NORRIS WOODS NATURE PRESERVE, KANE COUNTY**

**Location:** In St. Charles on the east bank of the Fox River, north of Pottawatomie Park.

**Size:** 62 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Morainal Section of the Northeastern Morainal Division.

**Natural Features:** The area exhibits a high quality dry-mesic upland forest. The forest is old-growth and domi-



nated by red and white oak. Other common trees include sugar maple, shagbark hickory, white ash, basswood, and red elm. The herbaceous flora is extremely rich and includes such rare species as cancer root, twin-leaf, poke milkweed, and broad-leaved gramwell. The endangered sedge *Carex laxiculmis* is also reported from the woods.

**Ownership and Access:** The area is owned by the St. Charles Park District and the city of St. Charles. Access to the area is via a sewer line right-of-way. No trails have been developed at present. (312/584-2700).

## **OZARK HILLS NATURE PRESERVE, UNION COUNTY**

**Location:** Within the southern part of Trail of Tears State Forest, 5 miles northwest of Anna.

**Size:** 222 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Southern Section of the Ozark Division.

**Natural Features:** Dry upland forest, mesic ravine forest and bedrock outcrops are represented here. The upland forest consists primarily of black oak, white oak, and hickories, with beech, tulip tree, sweet gum, white oak, sugar maple, and cucumber magnolia occurring in the mesic ravines. Notable plant species in the preserve include cucumber magnolia, wild azalea, and red buckeye.

**Ownership and Access:** The area is owned by the Illinois Department of Conservation. Access is provided by ridge top fire lanes maintained as trails. Supervisor, Trail of Tears State Forest, Jonesboro, Illinois, (618/833-6125).

## **PAW PAW WOODS NATURE PRESERVE, COOK COUNTY**

**Location:** On both sides of Archer Avenue, from 95th Street to the Gulf, Mobile, and Ohio Railroad west of Fairmont Cemetery.

**Size:** 105 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Morainal Section of the Northeastern Morainal Division.

**Natural Features:** The area contains some of the south bluff and floodplain of the Des Plaines River valley. The forest is of red oak, sugar maple, and white oak on the slopes, black oak and white oak on the ridgetops, and elm and bur oak on the floodplain. Uncommon plants include paw paw, shingle oak, and chinquapin oak. Spice bush and an abundance of wildflowers are also present.

**Ownership and Access:** The preserve is owned by the Cook County Forest Preserve District, River Forest, Illinois. No parking or trails have been developed. (312/369-9420).



## **PERE MARQUETTE NATURE PRESERVE, JERSEY COUNTY**

**Location:** On St. Andrew's Ridge, within the northern part of Pere Marquette State Park, 3 miles west of Grafton.

**Size:** 297.4 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Driftless Section of the Middle Mississippi Border Division.

**Natural Features:** Upland forest, limestone cliffs, loess hill prairie and spring-fed streams constitute the habitats of the preserve. Sugar maple, basswood, and red oak are dominant in the forest, with flowering dogwood and redbud also represented. The rich herbaceous flora include Christmas fern, ginseng, and glade fern. The limestone cliffs provide habitat for herbaceous plant species including shooting star, woolly lip fern, and columbine. Big and little bluestem, Indian grass and side-oats grama dominate the prairie, known as the Lost Hill Prairie due to its remote location, and bald eagle sightings have been reported in this area in the winter months.

**Ownership and Access:** The area is owned by the Illinois Department of Conservation. Access to the site is provided by a narrow gravel road which traverses the area in a general southeast to northwest direction. Site Superintendent, Box 158, Grafton, Illinois, (618/786-3323).

## **PINE ROCK NATURE PRESERVE, OGLE COUNTY**

**Location:** Four miles east of Oregon on Route 64.

**Size:** 59 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Oregon Section of the Rock River Hill Country Division.

**Natural Features:** The vegetation includes black oak forest on uplands, mesic and wet prairie and some boggy areas on the lowlands. A prominent outcrop of St. Peter Sandstone is one of the principal features of the area. Many uncommon plants are present, including rock spikemoss, royal fern, purple cliffbrake, yellow-eyed grass, turk's-cap lily, grass pink orchid, green fringed orchid, nodding ladies' tresses and fireweed. The ornate box turtle and lark sparrow are also present.

**Ownership and Access:** The preserve is owned by Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, Illinois. Access is by permission of Taft Field Campus at Oregon. (815/732-2111).

## **PINEY CREEK NATURE PRESERVE, RANDOLPH COUNTY**

**Location:** 5 miles southwest of Campbell Hill on the Randolph and Jackson County line.

**Size:** 111 acres

Natural Division and Section: Middle Section of the Ozark Division.

Natural Features: Black oak, pignut hickory, and short-leaf pine dominate the dry upland forest, with white oak, sugar maple, and black gum occurring in the mesic forest. The rich ravine bottoms of the 80-foot deep canyon include the northernmost outposts of beech and tulip trees in southern Illinois. Ozarkian plants include shortleaf pine, Harvey's buttercup, and Bradley's spleenwort.

Ownership and Access: The site is owned and managed by the Illinois Department of Conservation. Parking facilities and a trail are provided. Site Superintendent, R.R. 1, Box 345, Chester, Illinois, (618/826-2706).

## **PISTAKEE BOG NATURE PRESERVE, MCHENRY COUNTY**

Location: 1½ miles west of the junction of Illinois Route 134 and U.S. Route 12 on Bay Road.

Size: 88 acres

Natural Division and Section: Morainal Section of the Northeastern Morainal Division.

Natural Features: A calcareous bog, sedge meadow and upland oak-hickory woods are found on the preserve. Interesting species found at the site include tamarack and such rare plants as showy lady's slipper orchid, bunchberry, and starflower.

Ownership and Access: The preserve is owned by the Illinois Department of Conservation as part of the Volo Bog Preserve. Access has not been developed. Visitors should obtain permission from the Site Superintendent, 620 Brandenburg Road, Ingleside, Illinois, (815/344-1294).

## **POSEN WOODS NATURE PRESERVE, WASHINGTON COUNTY**

Location: In the Washington County Conservation Area five miles southeast of Nashville.

Size: 39.5 acres

Natural Division and Section: Mt. Vernon Hill Country Section of the Southern Till Plain Division.

Natural Features: The preserve displays virgin post oak flatwoods developed on shallow claypan soils. Woody vegetation includes post oak and black oak with scattered hickories, blackjack oak, and pin oak.

Ownership and Access: The area is owned and managed by the Illinois Department of Conservation. Access is from an allweather park road on the west edge of the preserve. No trails have been developed. Site Superintendent, R.R. 3, Nashville, Illinois, (618/327-3137).

## **PROSPECT CEMETERY PRAIRIE NATURE PRESERVE, FORD COUNTY**

**Location:** Southeast edge of Paxton on Vermillion Street.

**Size:** 5 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Division.

**Natural Features:** The area is comprised of high quality mesic black soil prairie. Some rare prairie plants have been located here as well as big bluestem, Indian grass, prairie dropseed, and some 80 other native prairie grasses, forbs, and shrubs.

**Ownership and Access:** The preserve is owned by the Patton Township Cemetery Trustees and is managed with the assistance of local schools. Access and information regarding the prairie is available to visitors via the Cemetery Trustees of Patton. (217/379-2767).



## **REAVIS NATURE PRESERVE, MASON COUNTY**

**Location:** Five and one-half miles south of Easton. Take County Road 2620E south from County Road 710N one-half mile to County 660N. Follow 660N 1.5 miles east.

**Size:** 53 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Springfield Section of the Grand Prairie Division.

**Natural Features:** The preserve is characterized by hill prairie and forest on deep loess to gravelly soils. The prairie is dominated by little bluestem and side-oats grama, with big bluestem and Indian grass common on lower slopes. Conspicuous forbs include purple coneflower, prairie clover, tickseed, leadplant, and scurf-pea. Oak-hickory

forest grows on less exposed slopes and in the ravines. Interesting fauna includes the western hog-nosed snake and the western slender glass snake. The preserve is part of one of the largest hill prairies in Illinois.

**Ownership and Access:** The preserve is owned and managed by the Illinois Department of Conservation. Road-side parking is available and a trail leads to the top of the bluff. Site Superintendent, Lincoln's New Salem, Box 236, Petersburg, Illinois, (217/632-3846).

## **REED-TURNER WOODLAND NATURE PRESERVE, LAKE COUNTY**

**Location:** West of Old McHenry Road, one mile northwest of the crossroads in the village of Long Grove, along Indian Creek.

**Size:** 32 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Morainal Section of the Northeastern Morainal Division.

**Natural Features:** Second-growth upland and floodplain forest, sedge meadow, and a restored prairie are present on the preserve. White oak, red oak, shagbark hickory, and bur oak dominate the upland forest, while black willow, green ash, black walnut, and swamp white oak are present in the floodplain along Indian Creek. Several species of sedges and rushes are found in the meadow as well as blue-joint grass, marsh aster, curly dock, and blue flag iris. Typical prairie grasses and forbs have been raised from seed on the restored prairie which is bordered by an early-settler-planted osage orange hedgerow.

**Ownership and Access:** The preserve is owned by the Long Grove Park District and is managed by the Park District in conjunction with a Preserve Management Committee. Tours through the preserve are available on a pre-arranged basis only. (312/438-7230).

## **ROBESON HILLS NATURE PRESERVE, LAWRENCE COUNTY**

**Location:** Northwest of Vincennes, Indiana on both sides of U.S. Route 50 just west of the Wabash River.

**Size:** 120 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Southern Uplands Section of the Wabash Border Division.

**Natural Features:** The preserve consists of a mature beech-maple forest on dissected deep loess deposits overlooking the Wabash River. Most of the area is mesic with large trees, especially in the deep ravines. The locally rare sessile-leaved trillium is found here, along with mistletoe and other unusual species.

**Ownership and Access:** Vincennes University owns the area and plans to use it as an outdoor laboratory and environmental education site. Access to the tract is presently undeveloped. (812/882-3357).

## **ROCKTON NATURE PRESERVE, WINNEBAGO COUNTY**

**Location:** Three miles northwest of Rockton and three miles west of South Beloit on Prairie Avenue.

**Size:** 67 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Winnebago Section of the Northeastern Morainal Division.

**Natural Features:** Sedge meadow, wet and mesic prairie and marsh can be found on the preserve. The wet areas are dominated by sedges, cord grass, bluejoint grass, and cattails while the mesic areas contain predominantly willow, dogwood, dwarf birch, and black chokeberry. Many prairie and wetland plants occur, including cinnamon fern, royal fern, Fraser's St. John's wort, and prairie blazing star.

**Ownership and Access:** The preserve is owned by the Illinois Department of Conservation. Roadside parking is available on Prairie Avenue at the east edge of the preserve. Site Superintendent, R.R. 1, Box A-49, Caledonia, Illinois, (815/885-3612).

## **ROUND BLUFF NATURE PRESERVE, JOHNSON COUNTY**

**Location:** South of the main park road and southwest of the lake in Ferne Clyffe State Park, 1½ miles south of Goreville.

**Size:** 53 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Greater Shawnee Hills Section of the Shawnee Hills Division.

**Natural Features:** Natural communities found within the preserve include mesic and dry upland forest, bluffs, and sandstone outcrops supporting northern relict plants. The blufftop forest includes post oak, blackjack oak, and pignut hickory, with sugar maple, red oak, tulip tree, and bitternut hickory occurring in mesic sites. Shrubs of the blufftop forest include farkleberry, red cedar, and aromatic sumac, while spicebush is prevalent in mesic areas. The north and northeast slopes of the preserve support many rare plants, including hay-scented fern, cinnamon fern, black chokeberry, screwstem, and closed gentian. Small flowered rock-pink and prickly pear cactus can be found on the dry south-facing slopes and the rare and beautiful firepink occurs throughout the preserve.

**Ownership and Access:** The area is owned and managed by the Illinois Department of Conservation. A nature trail circles the bluff. Site Superintendent, Box 120, Goreville, Illinois, (618/995-2411).

## **RUSSELL M. DUFFIN NATURE PRESERVE, VERMILION COUNTY**

**Location:** In the Forest Glen Preserve, 9 miles southeast of Danville and 6 miles northeast of Georgetown on the south bank of the Vermilion River.

**Size:** 160 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** The Vermilion River Section of the Wabash Border Division.

**Natural Features:** The preserve consists of a mesic ravine and a dry upland forest on a deeply dissected glacial till plain. The forest is chiefly composed of red oak, sugar maple, beech, and tulip tree in the ravines and white oak, black oak, and hickory on the ridgetops. There is a rich ground cover of spring wildflowers, including squirrel corn, yellow trout lily, and celandine poppy.

**Ownership and Access:** The preserve is owned by the Vermilion County Conservation District, with field trips coordinated through Willow Shores Nature Center at Forest Glen. Parking and trails are developed. (217/662-6284).

## **SALT CREEK WOODS NATURE PRESERVE, COOK COUNTY**

**Location:** South of 31st Street, east of Wolf Road, and north and west of Salt Creek.

**Size:** 245 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** The Morainal Section of the Northeastern Morainal Division.

**Natural Features:** The area contains upland forest, floodplain forest, small ponds and Salt Creek. The upland forest includes bur oak, white oak, red oak, and black oak with some basswood and hickory. The small floodplain contains silver maple, elm and cottonwood.

**Ownership and Access:** The area is owned by the Cook County Forest Preserve District, River Forest, Illinois. Trails are developed. Visitors should park at Bemis Woods. (312/369-9420).

## **SAND PRAIRIE-SCRUB OAK NATURE PRESERVE, MASON COUNTY**

**Location:** Nine miles south of Havana, three miles east of Bath, between Bath and Kilbourne.

**Size:** 1,460 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** The Illinois River Section of the Illinois River and Mississippi Sand Areas Division.

**Natural Features:** The area contains forest, prairie and sand dunes. The vegetation includes scrub forest of black oak and blackjack oak, sand prairie and plant associations of unstabilized sand dunes and old fields.



**Ownership and Access:** The preserve is owned and managed by the Illinois Department of Conservation. Parking and trails have been developed from the midpoint of the east side of the area. Site Superintendent, P.O. Box 82, Forest City, Illinois, (309/597-2212).

## **SAND RIDGE NATURE PRESERVE, COOK COUNTY**

**Location:** East of Torrence Avenue, west of Penn Central Railroad, north of Michigan City Road and south of Pulaski Road (134th Street).

**Size:** 70 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** The Chicago Lake Plain Section of the Northeastern Morainal Division.

**Natural Features:** The area consists of long ridges and low swales of lakeshore deposited sands. The vegetation consists of prairie of little bluestem, June grass and porcupine grass in dry areas and of bluejoint grass and cordgrass in wet areas. There are some black oak trees on the ridges. Many prairie wildflowers are present including fringed gentian, closed gentian, prairie dock, cream false indigo, and blazing star.

**Ownership and Access:** The area is owned by the Cook County Forest Preserve District, River Forest, Illinois. Access is by permission of the naturalist at Sand Ridge Nature Center. (312/369-9420).

## **SHOE FACTORY ROAD NATURE PRESERVE, COOK COUNTY**

**Location:** On the south side of Shoe Factory Road, midway between Sutton Road (Route 59) and the Elgin, Joliet and Eastern Railroad, in Hanover Township.

**Size:** 9 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** The Morainal Section of the Northeastern Morainal Division.



**Natural Features:** The preserve is a gravel hill prairie consisting of little bluestem, side-oats grama, and porcupine grass with some big bluestem and Indian grass and with numerous prairie forbs.

**Ownership and Access:** The area is owned by the Cook County Forest Preserve District, River Forest, Illinois. Access is by permission of the naturalist at Crabtree Farm Nature Center. (312/369-9420).

## **SPITLER WOODS NATURE PRESERVE, MACON COUNTY**

**Location:** Eight miles southeast of Decatur and one-half mile east of Mt. Zion.

**Size:** 146 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Division.

**Natural Features:** Natural communities found at the preserve include dry-mesic upland forest, mesic upland forest and wet-mesic floodplain forest. The dry-mesic areas are composed primarily of white oak, red oak, black oak and shagbark hickory while red oak, basswood, sugar maple and black walnut are predominant in the mesic upland forest. The wet-mesic ravine bottoms are dominated by sycamore, hackberry and American elm. Five species of orchids have been located on the preserve, as well as the Illinois threatened species of ginseng and goldenseal.

**Ownership and Access:** The area is owned and managed by the Illinois Department of Conservation, and access is off of Illinois Route 121. Trails have been developed. Site Superintendent, Box 705, Mt. Zion, Illinois (217/864-3121).

## **SPRING BAY FEN NATURE PRESERVE, WOODFORD COUNTY**

**Location:** 2 miles south of Spring Bay and ¾ mile west of State Road 26.

**Size** 26.6 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Illinois River Section of both the Upper Mississippi River and Illinois River Bottomland Division and the Illinois River and Mississippi River Sand Areas Division.

**Natural Features:** The preserve is recognized as the only remaining example of an Illinois River cold water tall shrub fen left in the state. The area is composed of floodplain forest and a tall shrub fen. Interesting plants found in the preserve include turk's-cap lily, false aster, lesser twayblade orchid, and highbush cranberry. The tall shrub layer is made up of nannyberry, poison sumac, pussy willow, red-osier dogwood, and hoary willow.

**Ownership and Access:** The area is owned by the Illinois Department of Conservation. Acquisition is in-



complete and public access to the fen at this time is available only from the Illinois River. Site Superintendent, R.R. 1, Lacon, Illinois, (309/246-8351).

## **SPRING LAKE NATURE PRESERVE, COOK COUNTY**

**Location:** Bounded by Donlea Road, Cook-Lake County Line Road, Bateman Road, and Sutton Road.

**Size:** 560 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** The Morainal Section of the Northeastern Morainal Division.

**Natural Features:** Forest, prairie, fen, old field, marsh, glacial lake and permanent stream are found on the preserve. The vegetation includes bur oak forest on slopes, extensive marshes of cattail, bluejoint grass, and bulrushes, and some common prairie forbs. The area attracts many marsh birds.

**Ownership and Access:** The area is owned by the Cook County Forest Preserve District, River Forest, Illinois. No parking or trails have been developed. (312/369-9420).

## **STARVED ROCK NATURE PRESERVE, LASALLE COUNTY**

**Location:** South of the Illinois River, west of Route 178 and north of Route 71, within Starved Rock State Park.

**Size:** 582 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Division.

**Natural Features:** Natural communities found within the preserve include upland ravine, and valley forest of sandstone and limestone bluffs along the Illinois River as well as ponds, forest and some sand prairie in the river bottom. The cliffs and canyons provide spectacular scenery and habitats that support such unusual plants as white pine and white cedar. The axis of the LaSalle anticline, one of the main structural features of the state, passes through the preserve in the vicinity of Split Rock, a prominent outcropping on the river bank.

**Ownership and Access:** The area is owned and managed by the Illinois Department of Conservation. Parking and trails have been developed. Site Superintendent, Box 116, Utica, Illinois, (815/667-4726).

## **THOMSON-FULTON SAND PRAIRIE NATURE PRESERVE, WHITESIDE COUNTY**

**Location:** Two miles south of Thomson, in the northwest corner of Whiteside County, between the Burlington-Northern Railroad right-of-way and the Mississippi River navigation pool.

**Size:** 37 acres

Natural Division and Section: The Mississippi River Section of the Illinois River and Mississippi River Sand Areas Division.

Natural Features: The preserve displays sand prairie, dunes, and blowouts on a sand terrace. Among the noteworthy species present are the prickly pear cactus and the western harvest mouse.

Ownership and Access: The area is owned by the Illinois Department of Conservation and is managed as a part of a larger scientific study area including adjacent Army Corps of Engineers land. Parking is available at Mickelson's Landing. Site Superintendent, R.R. 4, Morrison, Illinois, (815/772-4708).

## **THORN CREEK WOODS NATURE PRESERVE, WILL COUNTY**

Location: Immediately south of the Will-Cook County line within the village limits of Park Forest and Park Forest South. It is bounded by Monee Road on the west, Western Avenue on the east, and Exchange Avenue on the south.

Size: 500 acres

Natural Division and Section: Morainal Section of the Northeastern Morainal Division.

Natural Features: A highly diversified area, the preserve displays examples of upland, ravine, and bottom-land forest, glacial potholes, ponds, a small prairie remnant, springs, seepage areas, and Thorn Creek. The diversity of habitats and the large size of the area provides for an abundance of wildlife and rich herbaceous flora including Schreber's aster, yellow trout-lily, and spotted coral-root orchid. The upland forest is dominated by white oak, red oak and bur oak, while the ravine forests are of basswood, sugar maple and black maple. Hop hornbeam is the most frequent inhabitant of the dry steep slopes.

Ownership and Access: The preserve is owned by the Illinois Department of Conservation, Will County Forest Preserve District, the Village of Park Forest and the Village of Park Forest South. Nature trails have been developed and a nature center is located on the west edge of the woods off Monee Road. (815/727-8700).

## **THORNTON-LANSING ROAD ZANDERS WOODS NATURE PRESERVE, COOK COUNTY**

Location: North of 183rd Street and Thorn Creek (Schwab) Road, south of Thornton-Lansing Road and west of Calumet Expressway.

Size: 440 acres

Natural Division and Section: The Chicago Lake Plain Section of the Northeastern Morainal Division.

Natural Features: The vegetation within the preserve includes dry-mesic oak woods, black oak on sand, cattail-

bulrush marsh, wet to dry sand prairie, and bog-like communities in sandy depressions. Unusual shrubs and wildflowers found here include sassafras, sweet fern, lupine, sour gum, and several orchids. The most common forest type is pin oak sandy flatwoods.

**Ownership and Access:** The preserve is owned by the Cook County Forest Preserve District, River Forest, Illinois. Parking is available along Zanders Road, but no trails have been developed. (312/369-9420).

## **TROUT PARK NATURE PRESERVE, KANE COUNTY**

**Location:** On the northeast edge of the City of Elgin, between Duncan Avenue and Dundee Avenue and south of the Northwest Tollway.

**Size:** 26 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Morainal Section of the Northeastern Morainal Division.

**Natural Features:** Upland forests, seepage areas, springs, and glacial features of the Fox River are featured within the preserve. The bluff tops support bur oak, white oak, and wild black cherry while red oak, basswood, white ash, and witch hazel predominate the slopes. Sugar maple, black maple, blue ash, red elm, chinquapin oak and rock elm can be found on the mesic sites and green ash, black ash and black willow grow in or near the seepage areas. Numerous rare plants and animals are found in the preserve, including hemlock parsley, purple avens, and several unusual species of caddis flies. This is one of the richest botanical areas in northern Illinois, and it has long been noted as a unique natural area.

**Ownership and Access:** The preserve is owned by the City of Elgin, Parks and Recreation Department. Trails have been laid out through the area and parking is available. (312/695-6500).

## **VOLO BOG NATURE PRESERVE, LAKE COUNTY**

**Location:** Two miles northwest of Volo. May be reached by proceeding 1.2 miles north of Volo on U.S. 12, then 1.4 miles west on Sullivan Lake Road, then 0.3 miles north and east on Brandenburg Road.

**Size:** 161 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Morainal Section of the Northeastern Morainal Division.

**Natural Features:** Vegetation on the preserve includes a Tamarack bog, floating bog mat, shrub community, marsh with cattail, sedges, bluejoint grass, and an open water area. This is the only bog in Illinois that contains a well developed Tamarack forest and all prior stages of bog succession. There are many unusual plants characteristic of bogs found here, including sphagnum moss, cotton

sedge, buckbean, pitcher plant, winterberry, poison sumac, leather leaf, and cinnamon fern.

**Ownership and Access:** The preserve is owned by the Illinois Department of Conservation. A parking area, interpretive center and trail are provided. Site Superintendent, 620 Brandenburg Road, Ingleside, Illinois, (815/344-1294).

## **WADSWORTH PRAIRIE NATURE PRESERVE, LAKE COUNTY**

**Location:** Six miles west of Zion, seven and one-half miles northwest of Waukegan. The preserve lies west of the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific railroad tracts and east of the Des Plaines River. Its southern boundary is one-quarter mile north of Wadsworth Road near the village of Wadsworth.

**Size:** 176 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Morainal Section of the Northeastern Morainal Division.

**Natural Features:** Wet and mesic prairie and marsh are located within the preserve. Big bluestem dominates the mesic prairie with smooth blue aster, flowering spurge and nodding wild onion closely associated. The wet prairie is composed of cord grass with bluejoint grass and meadowsweet abundant. River bulrush dominates the marsh. The endangered prairie white fringed orchid and Henslow's sparrow have been reported on the area.

**Ownership and Access:** The preserve is owned and managed by the Lake County Forest Preserve District. Access is via U.S. 41 and Wadsworth Road, and a trail is being developed. (312/367-6640).

## **WAUCONDA BOG NATURE PRESERVE, LAKE COUNTY**

**Location:** On the south side of the village of Wauconda, east of Rand Road.

**Size:** 67 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Morainal Section of the Northeastern Morainal Division.

**Natural Features:** The preserve is a bog in the old-age stage of bog development that contains no open water areas. Some areas are dominated by shrubs, others by cat-tails and still others by Tamarack. There are several rare plants found here including native orchids. Wildlife includes marsh wren and several species of rails.

**Ownership and Access:** The preserve is owned and managed by the Illinois Department of Conservation. No access has been developed. Site Superintendent, 729 E. State Park Rd., Spring Grove, Illinois, (312/587-5512).

## **WESTON CEMETERY PRAIRIE NATURE PRESERVE, MCLEAN COUNTY**

**Location:** One-half mile east of the town of Weston, north of Route 24, south of Toledo, Peoria, and Western Railroad.

**Size:** 5 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Grand Prairie Section of the Grand Prairie Division.

**Natural Features:** The prairie contains a near-virgin "black-soil" mesic prairie that is representative of the vast prairie that once covered Illinois. Dominant on the prairie are big bluestem, Indian grass, little bluestem, and prairie dropseed. Typical prairie forbs present include shooting star, wood betony, prairie violet, lead plant, compass plant, goldenrods, and asters.

**Ownership and Access:** The cemetery is owned by Yates Township. Access is from Route 24 via an unimproved field road. Parking is provided but no trails have been developed. (309/436-6567).

## **WILLIAM AND EMMA BOHM MEMORIAL NATURE PRESERVE, MADISON COUNTY**

**Location:** Near Edwardsville on private property.

**Size:** 10 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Glaciated Section of the Middle Mississippi Border Division.

**Natural Features:** Mesic upland forest, dry-mesic upland forest and wet floodplain forest are all represented on the site. Red oak, sugar maple and basswood occur in the mesic upland areas, while white oak, mockernut hickory and red elm prevail in the dry-mesic section. The herbaceous understory is quite rich with the Illinois threatened plant species American ginseng and goldenseal being present.

**Ownership and Access:** The preserve is privately owned and access is limited.

## **WINDFALL PRAIRIE NATURE PRESERVE, VERMILION COUNTY**

**Location:** East bluff of the Middle Fork of the Vermilion River within Middle Fork State Fish and Wildlife Area.

**Size:** 32 acres

**Natural Division and Section:** Vermilion River Section of the Wabash Border Division.

**Natural Features:** Glacial drift hill prairie, upland forest, and calcareous seep are present in the preserve. Side-oats grama, little bluestem, and Indian grass dominate the prairie, but stunted red cedar, chinquapin oak, hop hornbeam, any many showy forbs are also represented.

Surrounding the prairie are forests of oaks and hickory while sugar maple and basswood prevail on the slopes and ravines.

Ownership and Access: The preserve is owned and managed by the Illinois Department of Conservation. Trails are being developed. Site Superintendent, R.R. 1, Oakwood, Illinois, (217/442-4915).

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STATE OF ILLINOIS  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION  
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER — 1981

**ARTICLE 64 — REGULATION OF PUBLIC USE  
OF ILLINOIS DEDICATED  
NATURE PRESERVES**

*Statutory Authority: State Parks and Nature Preserves Act, Sections 2A, 2B, 4 and 6 (Ill. Rev. Stat., Chapter 105, Sections 466A, 466B, 468 and 468B), the Snowmobile Registration and Safety Act, Section 5-1 (Ill. Rev. Stat., Chapter 95½, Section 605-1), Conservation District Act, Section 11, (Ill. Rev. Stat., Chapter 96½, Section 7111).*

**IT IS UNLAWFUL:**

1. For any person to enter any dedicated nature preserve or portion thereof if such area has been closed to visitors by notice posted by the Department of Conservation or a duly authorized agent thereof.
2. For any person to possess or consume or be under the influence of intoxicating beverages, including beer, or dangerous or narcotic drugs in any dedicated nature preserve.
3. For any person to camp or place a tent or trailer or any type of camping device in a dedicated nature preserve.
4. For any person to cut, break, injure, destroy, take or remove any tree, shrub, timber, flower, plant, or other natural object including rocks, soil, or water from a dedicated nature preserve; except that small quantities of such materials may be collected and removed for scientific or educational purposes by written permit from the owner, the Department of Conservation and the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission, and except for management under direct supervision of a designated agent.
5. For any person to kill, cause to be killed, harass, pursue, or take any animal, whether mammal, bird, fish, reptile, amphibian, or invertebrate or its

nest or habitat in a dedicated nature preserve; except that small quantities of such materials may be collected and removed for scientific or educational purposes by written permit from the owner, the Department of Conservation and the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission, and except for management purposes under the direct supervision of a designated agent with the approval of the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission and the Department of Conservation.

6. For any person to conduct scientific research in a dedicated nature preserve without a written permit from the owner, the Department of Conservation and the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission.
7. For any person to possess a firearm, airgun, slingshot, bow and arrow, or any other weapon within the boundaries of any dedicated nature preserve, except authorized peace officers and as authorized for management and control measures for wildlife population control under the supervision of a designated agent with the approval of the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission and the Department of Conservation.
8. For any person to take, mutilate, deface, move, or destroy any structure, improvement, work, or sign, or any stone, soil, or other natural object or material in any dedicated nature preserve, except for management under the direct supervision of a designated agent.
9. For any person to operate a motor vehicle in any dedicated nature preserve other than on designated roadways or parking areas or to park a motor vehicle except in designated parking areas, except for maintenance and management vehicles operated by designated agents.
10. For any person to operate a motor vehicle in a reckless manner, or to exceed posted speed limits on roadways within any dedicated nature preserve.
11. For any person to build or light any fire or willfully or carelessly permit any fire which has ignited or been caused to ignite or which is under his charge and care to spread or extend to or burn any part of a dedicated nature preserve, except for prescribed burning for vegetation management under the direct supervision of a designated agent.
12. For any person to discard rubbish of any kind in any dedicated nature preserve except in designated containers provided by the Department of Conservation or a duly authorized agent thereof.

13. For any person to bring or allow to enter into a dedicated nature preserve any dog, cat, horse, or other animal or pet, except that horses may be brought into areas where bridle trails are designated and posted.
14. For any person to engage in disorderly conduct within any dedicated nature preserve.
15. For any person to engage in any sporting or athletic activity, including swimming, within the boundaries of any dedicated nature preserve.
16. For admittance to be granted to groups of 25 or more persons to any nature preserve unless written permission from the Department of Conservation or other owner has been secured in advance. Groups of 25 or more will be granted permission to visit preserves if the groups do not exceed the capacity of the facility. The Site Superintendent of the affected facility shall grant permits, in advance, to groups wanting to use the facility.
17. For any group of minors to enter any dedicated nature preserve without adequate supervision. At least one responsible adult shall accompany each group of not more than 15 minors.
18. For any person to plant or disperse any native or non-native plant species or their parts into any dedicated Illinois Nature Preserve without the written approval of the Illinois Department of Conservation and the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission.
19. For any person to release or disperse any native or non-native animal species into any dedicated Illinois Nature Preserve without the written approval of the Illinois Department of Conservation and the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission.

Criteria that will be used to evaluate requests under parts 18 and 19 include:

- a. Is there evidence that the species formerly occurred on the preserve or that the habitat was suitable and was probably occupied by the species.
- b. Are the habitat and other ecological conditions presently suitable and adequate to support the species.
- c. What is the source of origin and genotype of the proposed introductions and is it the same as that originally occurring on the preserve.
- d. Will the reintroduction threaten the population for which it is being taken.
- e. Will the reintroduction threaten any species or communities presently considered desirable on the preserve.

(Filed April 23, 1981 , Effective April 24, 1981 )



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A DIRECTORY OF ILLINOIS NATURE PRESERVES  
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